

Amendments to the Claims

The following is a complete listing of the claims, replacing all previous listings of the claims. The status of each claim is indicated in parentheses next to the claim number. Claims are amended; claims are canceled; new claims are added.

1.- 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method for dermoscopic examination of moles of a patient's skin, said method comprising the steps of:

making a first set of plural digital images of the skin of a patient with a computer, said set including all of the skin of a patient;

storing, using said computer, said first set of plural digital images in a digital memory device;

reviewing said first set of plural digital images in sequence using said computer with said digital memory device installed therein; and

annotating said first set of plural digital images.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

making a second set of plural digital images of the skin of said patient using said computer, images of said second set corresponding to images of said ~~second~~ first set to define image pairs;

storing said second set of plural digital images in said digital memory device; and

comparing, using said computer, said first set to said second set of digital images to determine if there are changes in moles present on the skin of said patient.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 18, wherein said comparing step further comprises the step of comparing image pairs side by side using said computer with said digital memory device installed therein.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 18, wherein said comparing step further comprises the step of comparing corresponding image pairs using said computer by overlaying said images of said first set with images of said second set.

18. – 19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, further comprising the step of installing, using said computer, a software application on said digital memory device, said software application having a graphical user interface and being adapted for managing said first set of plural digital images.

21. (New) An image management system for use in a dermatological examination of a patient and for use with a computer, said system comprising a portable digital memory storage device having a set of images stored thereon and carrying a software application, said set of images representing the skin of a patient with each

image of said set showing a different area of said skin, said set of images representing all areas of said skin of said patient, said software launching when said storage device is connected to a computer with a monitor so that a user sees said images on said monitor, said software enabling a user to navigate said images in a systematic way to look for moles of interest present in said skin, to change the resolution of said images, and to annotate said images, said set of images serving as a record for comparison to a subsequent or a previous set of images of said skin of said patient to look for changes in said moles of said skin of said patient over time.

22. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 21, wherein said software is programmed to enable set of images to appear on said monitor of said computer as an array of thumbnail images upon launching of said software.

23. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 22, wherein said software application is programmed to enable said user to select a thumbnail image of said array of thumbnail images to enlarge to an intermediate image.

24. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 23, wherein said software is programmed to enable said user to marquee a portion of said intermediate image.

25. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 21, wherein said set of images is consistent with said subsequent and said previous sets of images so that each image of said set of images shows the same portion of a patient's skin.

26. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 21, wherein said software prevents said set of images from being altered in the course of being viewed.

27. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 21, wherein said software is programmed to associate annotations made by said user about said each image with said each image.

28. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 21, wherein said software is programmed to overlay said each image of a previous set or subsequent set of images over said each image of said set of images.

29. (New) The image management system as recited in claim 21, wherein said software is programmed to reverse said each image for self-examination.